

# About the Authors

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**Bhabendra Kumar Patnaik**, a gold medallist from Utkal University and a PhD holder of Banaras Hindu University, was involved in teaching Zoology in regional colleges of education (Bhubaneswar and Bhopal) and PG Department of Zoology, Berhampur University. He did postdoctoral research in Switzerland (1968–69) and UK (1975) in the area of experimental gerontology. He has edited special issues of both international journals (*Gerontology*, Switzerland) and national journals (*Indian Journal of Gerontology* and *Ageing and Society*). His research achievements include 150 publications and guidance to 29 PhD students. In association with others, he has written two books on Zoology, and Microbiology and Immunology. In 1994, Dr Patnaik received the Samanta Chandrasekhar Award from the Government of Odisha for his outstanding achievements in life science.



**Tarani Charan Kara**, a gold medalist and PhD holder from Berhampur University, is presently working as Professor and head of PG Department of Zoology, Khallikote Autonomous College, affiliated to Berhampur University, Berhampur, Odisha. Prof. Kara has more than thirty years of teaching and research experience in different institutions like Central Silk Board, Govt. of India, Government Autonomous Colleges and North Orissa University of Odisha. He has published thirty scientific articles and authored eight books. He has participated and delivered plenary/invited lectures at more than forty national and international symposia/seminars/conferences. He has also delivered lectures in refresher courses at academic staff colleges of the University of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. Prof. Kara has been honoured as a Visiting faculty of the Central University of Orissa, Koraput. In the years 1995 and 1996, the New York Academy of Science, USA, invited him to be a member of the Academy. He is also a member of different government autonomous colleges and universities of the state of Odisha such as the Board of Studies and Academic Councils of the Council of Higher Secondary Education, Orissa.



**Soumendra Nath Ghosh** is a PhD in cytogenetics from University of Delhi in 1985. His doctoral thesis research was with Prof. S R V Rao dealing with regulation of sex chromosomes in insects (locusts). Dr Ghosh has taught undergraduate and postgraduate students at various colleges and universities of Odisha. Now after his superannuation, he teaches at the Department of Biotechnology, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, as a visiting professor. His enthusiasm for teaching is appreciated by his students. He has written three textbooks for undergraduate students and has a few research publications to his credit as well.



**Abhaya Kumar Dalai** earned a PhD in plant stress physiology from Utkal University. His doctoral research was with Prof. P C Tripathy. He has served 33 years as a teacher in undergraduate and postgraduate colleges and universities. He has teaching experience in the fields of Biochemistry, Biostatistics, Cytogenetics, Environmental Biology, Industrial Microbiology and Molecular Biology. Dr Dalai was the Director of the Department of Biotechnology, Ravenshaw University—the erstwhile Ravenshaw College. His areas of interest are Mangrove Ecophysiology, Plant Tissue Culture and Industrial Microbiology. He has composed several research papers to his credit and has authored three textbooks. Three students have obtained PhD degrees under his able guidance. He now works in the field of Molecular Characterisation of Thermostable Amylases, Genome Analysis, and sequencing of such thermophilic bacteria.